

INSATS #3 2020 English summary

Calendar

8th of March: Day of Action - International Women's Day
14-15th of March: Lobby Training Course
22th of March: Webinar about "Also Human"
20-22th of March: National Youth Meeting
28-29th of March: Introduction Course in Asylum Rights, Malmö
30th of March - 30th of May: Action period for Take Action!
21-26th April: Action week against Death Penalty
25-26th of April: Introduction Course in Asylum Rights, Gothenburg
9-10th of May: Annual Meeting in Stockholm

The Calendar contains information about activities that concerns activists within the Swedish Section. In every number of INSATS the calendar is updated, thus can be changed in the next number of publications. Do you have any questions regarding the calendar contact the editor - karolina.ponten@amnesty.se.

New campaign: Get a grip Sweden - Take Action!

Did you know that a swedish law which demands corporations to respect human rights does not exist? This means that swedish corporations that are jeopardizing dangerous working conditions, pushdown salaries or silencing victims neither need to prevent or be held accountable if it occurs. Great Britain, France and the Netherlands have legislation on this matter and more legislation is in the decision-making process at the moment. Due to the circumstances Amnesty is now launching a new campaign for the making of such a law in Sweden.

What do we want!

We demand that Sweden implements a new law that demands corporations to respect human rights in Sweden and abroad in all stages of the production process.

Why?

Sweden has since 2015 a framework for companies and human rights since 2015 and a legislation about sustainability reporting since 2016. The problem is that these have low demands on how corporations work with human rights and the law of sustainability reporting does not include any kind of sanctions for corporations that do not follow it.

Amnesty is annually examining (together with Fair Action) some sustainability reports from selected corporations. On the 1th of April this year a new examination will be released and create the basis for our coming working process. These examinations clearly illustrate that swedish corporations are not considering the consequences their business has on human rights to the extent needed. For example, we are seeing that well-known traveling corporations do not handle the issue about compulsory labour on the hotels hired by them. Additionally, shoe companies are avoiding to control if hazardous chemicals are used in production chains and swedish fashion corporations are hiding what factories clothes are produced in, which results in that organizations and work unions in the host countries cannot contact the persons incharge if workers are treated badly. Previous reports have highlighted that both children and adults working with the extraction of cobalt (that is used in phone-, car and computer batteries) are under dangerous working conditions in mines in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

All across the world activists that are protesting against corporations that are causing environmental degradation and are risking human lives and health are experiencing threats and attacks.

Many of the examined companies do not have a continuous work process that analyses, produces feedback and updates their business operation and human rights.

Our very simple demands:

- The long-term goal is a legislation that demands that corporations respects human rights in all of their production and supply chains in Sweden and abroad.
- The short term goal for the campaign is that the government starts an investigation for a possible legislation before the end of the year

Human rights due diligence?

What we demand is a legislation that grants that corporations carry out **human rights due diligence**. Human rights due diligence (HRDD) is a process in which a corporation carries out a consequence analysis of what operational effect will have or has on human rights. HRDD is according to the UN's guiding principles for companies and human rights an important tool for corporations to work with human rights.

The campaign is a cooperation

Amnesty is pushing this campaign together with 12 other organizations: Act Swedish Church, Afrikagrupperna, Concord, Diakonia, Fair Action, Fair Trade, Forum Syd, Oxfam, Save the Children, Swedwatch, The Swedish Society for Nature Conservation, UNICEF Sverige, We Effect. This means that we have a lot of good co-operations partners at a local level to contact for co-operations.

How do we put pressure on politicians?

To show politicians that we are a big group of people that demand new legislation, we will together with our co-operations partners collect signatures through a petition from both the public, corporations and organizations. These will later be handed over to a government representative

We will also have conversations with politicians and business representatives. For those who are interested in participating but did not participate in the Lobby training course in March, there will be opportunities to jump in on a local level. Please contact me if you are interested in this type of work.

Be creative!

In the task of collecting signatures be creative! We have shown our great capacity to be creative and get people engaged in previously campaigns on the issue. The goal is to collect a massive amount of signatures and how to do so is all up to you! The possible ways to get attention and get people to engage are limitless! Tips and guidelines can be found in the instructions will be sent to groups that sign up for the campaign.

When?

The campaign is fully starting on the 30th of March and the time for action till go on until the 31 of May. Although, the petition will be up on Amnesty.se from the 16th of March and we will need signatures from all of you!

Material at aktivistportalen

As usual is aktivistportalen your best friend in campaign work.

Here you can find:

- Info Flyers and posters for printing or mail order.
- Petition to print
- Presentation with a background and campaign information.
- Cheat Sheet and Q&A with information about the issue. Also the campaign will be sent out by email to groups that have registered their interest.

Courses

We will provide written information for all groups that have registered their interest. Courses will be offered both digitally and/or locally. Information about when, where and how will soon be up on aktivism.amnesty.se/foretagsansvar. Can't wait for more info? Contact me!

Registration and contact

We want that all that will act within this campaign register on: aktivism.amnesty.se/visahandlingskraft.

Please contact us if you have any questions or comments!

Olivia Linander,

Campaign Leader Northwest

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As I see it...

Have you heard about the Swedish company Lundin Petroleum? This company has been accused of contributing to non-comprehensible wrong-doings of human rights during the civil war that occurred in Sudan 1997-2003. Approximately 12 000 casualties have been estimated and 160 000 were forced to leave their homes in an area South Sudan where the company was operating. Lundin, on the other hand, is arguing that they have had a positive affect in the country and contributed to development and peace. Nevertheless, it does not seem like the company did think of the possible risk their operation could contribute within a conflict area, before they started their operation.

In my field, it is clear that companies or corporations, especially big corporations, have a big possibility to affect human rights in communities which they are operating in. If they wanted to. A couple of them do, often after getting criticised in media with reports of suspected child labour in a host country. Corporations act fast when they are accused of bribery, because there is a Swedish legislation, which means that the corporations are risking to get accused and possibly get convicted and forced to pay a fine.

When it comes to corporations' responsibility to respect human rights Sweden does NOT have good legislation even though we are proud and say that we are great at human rights. I, on the other hand, do not think that we are so great. We are lagging behind. Our government includes UN's guiding principles for corporations and human rights in their action plan from 2015. These principles are putting out the red carpet for legislation, but nothing happens. Maybe, Sweden is waiting for the EU to take action within this issue, instead of being a symbolic leader in the area of human rights.

All around Europe there are laws that states that corporations shall respect human rights, e.g. France, Netherlands and more countries are in the process of creating this type of legislation. Our Nordic neighbours Finland and Norway are in this process right now after vigorous campaigning from Amnesty and other civil

society organisations. Now it's our turn to push Sweden: We also need legislation that pushes corporations to take responsibility *for real*. And we need to do it now!

So what is needed for there to be a Swedish legislation? We need both knowledge and political will for a decision to be made. We are ready to educate! If it's about lack of political will, we will make more politicians demand a legislation by launching the broad-range campaign *Take Action!* Both civil society and other big corporations are backing us in this campaign. We want to see a decision from the government asap, before more negative effects occur for those affected by irresponsible corporations that just continue to walk the same path...

Prosecutors have been working with the Lundin Petroleum investigation for decades. We need a Swedish law that demands that Swedish companies respect human rights to avoid that Swedish corporations contribute to a negative impact on human rights.

Ulrika Sandberg,
Expert in corporations and human rights

Action week in April: Release Ahmadreza Djalali and eliminate the death penalty!

Monday the 25th of April, 2016, the Swedish-Iranian doctor and researcher Ahmadreza Djalali was arrested as a suspect of espionage and association with Israel. He had been living in Sweden since 2009 with his family, but was in Iran to participate in a workshop about disaster medicine at the university of Tehran and Shiraz. In October 2017 he was sentenced to death in Iran.

Amnesty is annually releasing an international report about death penalty in the world. Around this time we get an update about progress and setback in the global fight to eliminate death penalty for good. It is also an occasion where we get the chance to highlight this issue in media: This year's report will be released on the 21 of April and we see this date as a perfect time to generally act on the issue by focusing and highlighting the case of Ahmadreza Djalali.

Our demands:

That Ahmadreza Djalali is released immediately and that his death penalty is repealed. There is no possibility for him to get a fair trial and therefore they should be released.

What shall we do?

Many of you have probably acted for Djalali's success before. Last autumn we wrote letters to him while he was in prison and collected 10 000 signatures via the web. This year, the thought is to make it inevitably clear for the ones responsible for his imprisonment that we have not forgotten Ahmadreza Djalali. By letter bombing the people in power in Iran (more information about the specific receivers of the letters will be uploaded on activist portalen and be stated in the next edition of Instas). We will be writing actual letters sent by post, best would be if they were made one by one and if there were MANY! Gather all, your most loved ones, acquaintances and strangers with their heart at the right place and urge them to write a letter, The more letters the better! Why not organize a correspondent marathon, a correspondent pub or cafe or the world longest correspondent table???

To get attention around the Djalali case in Sweden - and to get more people to act, we are also writing letters to the editor in local media.

When:

The action period is running from the 21 of April (when the report is released) to the 26th of April, due to the fact that Djalalis was put in prison on this particular day four years ago.

Material:

There will be material to print in aktivistportalen and suggestions for the correspondence. Instructions in the shape of letter frameworks, letter to the editor tips and other types of material can be found in the cheat sheet that will be sent out registered groups. If you don't have a printer the secretariat can help you print the material.

More information and registration:

More deep-going information about the death penalty Ahmadreza Djalali will be commig in the next edition of Insats. For those of you who are already interested can from now register and order material at aktivism.amnesty.se/dodsstraff. More information and eventual courses will be offered to registered groups.

Extract from a letter from Ahmadreza Djalali 2017

I would like to thank everyone that helped me and my family during the last years. The support I have got has been important to highlight what I have been exposed to. It has even been a big support for me personally and has kept the hope of one day being free, up. Even if so, I ask for your continued support. Please, demand that the iranian government will repeal my death penalty and release me.

I'm looking forward to one day being able to return to a normal life and continue my research and everyday life. Thank you so much.

Olivia Linander
Campaign coordinator, West
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Phone: 0704 619542

ALSO HUMAN: EVERYONE SHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT TO HEALTHCARE!

Vulnerable EU- citizens in Sweden have the right to the same amount of health care as they get in their native country. Nevertheless, some countries are lacking universal healthcare, which leads to the most vulnerable citizens lacking the health insurance card that you are expected to show when you are seeking healthcare in a different country.

We have heard testimonies from people that has sought emergency help and gotten a massive bill, women who has got denied help with contraceptive even though they have gone through repeated abortions and people that avoid seeking help due to the fear of being questioned or put in debt.

Amnesty wants vulnerable EU-citizens in Sweden to at least get care that cannot be deferred either they have an insurance card or not. This is the principle that applies to undocumented immigrants. This includes acute health care, maternal health service, health care for children and abortion and contraceptive counseling.

How you can help!

Amnesty is planning a meeting with the health minister Lena Hallengren later this spring. The purpose of this meeting is to show the different possibilities that exist for this group to get access to health care in different parts

of the country. This is unacceptable for a country that respects human rights. To be able to illustrate this issue we need more information from different healthcare providers and politicians. We would love to see this issue get publicity in local media. Some of you have already got started, but we need more to help out with the following tasks:

- Ask questions to medical centers, emergency rooms and dentist offices.
- Call your region politicians and ask for a meeting.
- Write a letter to the editor about the result.

More info at the webinar in March!!

Webinar is held on Sunday the 22th of March between 3pm and 4:30 pm.

Register on aktivism.amnesty.se/eumedborgare and don't and hesitate to bring one of your mates.

More information can also be found on aktivism.amnesty.se/eumedborgare or amnesty.se/människa!

Marianne Gyllenpistol

Campaign coordinator, South

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Urgent Action!

Young comedians in Myanmar are sentenced to death - Act Now!

The satire group Peacock Generation is putting up shows with satire poetry, music and dance - "Thangyat" - which is a traditional artform in Myanmar. Six artists were arrested in April-May 2019 after a show in which the performers were wearing military uniforms and were criticizing Tatmadaw, Myanmar's military.

These six artists have been sentenced to prison for two or three years. Three out of them Kyye Myint, Saw Wai och Nay Myo Zin were on the 17th of February convicted to another six months on the ground of online defamation. All they did was to livestream their show on Facebook.

The artists have not committed any type of crime, they are prisoners of conscience and should be released immediately. To silence critics, activists and artists by putting them in prison for peaceful activism is unfortunately a common method used by the military in Myanmar. For this reason we need to act now! You can email, write letters or act on social media. More information can be found on: <http://aktivism.amnesty.se/aktioner>

Beatrice Schönning

Coordinator Individuals at Risk

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Book a meeting about refugees and migrant rights!

Does your district or group want to know more about refugee and migrant rights? Amnesty's refugee and migration group is made up by refugee and migrant coordinators, custody visitors, and the team at the secretaria. We would love to come and talk to you about migrant and refugee rights or other relevant questions. Perfect for a local and annual meeting!

Ellinor Hagman
Administrator refugee and migration
ellinor.hagman@amnesty.se

Apply to Nordic Youth Conference 2020!

What does Arsenal Football Club, Uyghur-activists, Ilham Tohti och protesters in Hong Kong have in common? They have all been subjects to chinese pressure to limit the freedom of expression.

During this year's Nordic Youth Meeting in Helsinki, you will get the opportunity to learn more about Amnesty's work, current campaigns, activism and leadership. This year's conference will focus on human rights in China and the country's role as a great power and uighurs situation.

The meeting is for those who will be engaged in Amnesty after this summer. We have the opportunity to send 10 activists from the swedish secretariat to these awesome days with sauna and bathing, inspiration and hangouts with activists from all the nordic countries.

Last day to apply is Wednesday the 15th of April and the application form will be uploaded soon at <http://aktivism.amnesty.se/ungdomstraff>

Activist coordinator, Youth activism
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THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2020

We hope to see you in Stockholm the 9th-10th of May

The biggest and largest Amnesty weekend of the year will be held in Stockholm on the 9- 10th of May! Annual meeting gives you the opportunity to meet like-minded people, obtaining knowledge about the situation for human rights in the world and developing your engagement. We celebrate what we have obtained and develop strength to cope with the challenges ahead of us.

The Annual meeting includes two days jammed with activities. We will vote on a new board, decision-making of motions, discuss the new strategic period and listen to intriguing presentations. The Secretary General from the hungarian secretariat will tell us about the human rights situation in Hungary. The fully specified program will be published on the 11th of March and will be found on amnesty.se/årsmöte.

It is free to participate for Amnesty members and for 300 kr you will also receive accommodation and food - if you register before the 20th of April via amnesty.se/årsmöte. See you in Stockholm in MAY, welcome!

We are looking for drafting volunteers!

We are now looking for engaged people that want to participate as secretaries in our drafting committee. The drafting committee is a smaller version of plenum negotiations. By dividing us into smaller groups there is more space to discuss motions and proposals that are proposed at the annual meeting. Are you good at taking notes and catching the important parts of the discussion? Then you can make a great contribution in one of our drafting committees! Contact Karin by using the details below!

KARIN LEDIN DA ROSA

Project manager, Annual meeting 2020

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We are looking for a discrimination representative for the annual meeting!

The position concerns being present during the whole annual meeting to receive possible complaints from participants, regarding discriminations, harassments or other types of wrong-doings. The role of the representative is to encourage a working environment that's free from discrimination and wrong-doings.

You will have a contact person at the meeting that can provide help and support during the assignment.

Nominate the annual activist awards

...last year's groups, activists and the activist of all time!

Before the annual meeting in 2016 three prizes for activists that have contributed to Amnesty's work in different ways were created. It's soon time for this year's annual meeting and it's about time to nominate the ones you are worthy of some extra attention for their work!

The great creativity prize

This prize is given to ones arranging the most creative activity in 2019 in connection with the secretariats action days in 2019. The prize is supposed to highlight the creative ideas and spread them within the movement. The winner of the great creativity prize last year was Group 78 in Östersund, for arranging a football game to shed light on the situation of the human rights defenders in Russia.

The Great Activity Price.

This prize is given to the ones arranging the best activity in connection to one of the action days during 2018. A great activity highlights influence, expansion and engagement. Last year's winner was Amnesty Business Group Stockholm due to its work in analysing and examination of corporations sustainability reports.

The Activist lifetime award

The prize is handed out to a person that put his heart, soul and time in Amnesty. This prize is not limited to a certain year, instead a lifetime award. Anita Grünbaum received this prize last year for her 47 years of tireless dedication and work within Amnesty

Do you know any activist, group or activity that should be given attention - nominate them as soon as possible!

Last day to nominate: 30th of April. The nomination should include:

- Name of the group/activist you want to nominate.
- A description of the activity of the person's dedication.
- A short motivation letter of why you think this person should receive this price

Fartun Andersson Ramnemo

Activist coordinator

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Information from the board

At the board meeting in february new ideas about how members should be included in the secretariat operation planning, next strategic period, planning of the secretariats annual meeting and policy for language usage was discussed.

At the annual meeting in 2019 new guidelines for how and when members should be involved in the secretariats operations planning was decided. At the february meeting, the board discussed a proposal based on the new strategy for activism and gives members the chance to influence the planning of the organisations development on two different levels. Firstly, on a strategic level in terms of operation of the overall goals and the framework for the secretariats priorities. Secondly, on an operational level which includes planning of the larger key activities, such as campaigns, courses and annual meetings. The board also emphasised the need of a cycle that illustrates the connection between the questions discussed internationally and the decisions made at the annual meeting Global Assembly, that also clarifies how and when members can participate in this type of planning. Questions will be further discussed during the meeting in March.

Parallel with these discussions is a larger member consultation regarding the next strategic period. The international movement will make a decision about the new common goals for all of Amnesty International at the Global Assembly this summer. After that the swedish section will design their specific goals within the framework of the common international goals. If you are interested in participating in this process, these opportunities will be held during fall 2020 and spring 2021.

During the annual meeting 2019 the board asked for an implementation plan including policy documents to be created on the issue of getting more participation through working material in english. At the board meeting in february a proposal regarding that the implementation plan and that swedish should be the languages used in external material. Material that has a longer life span can be translated to english and that when new material are produced a possible translation to english should be reviewed. The secretariat should also arrange meetings for student groups and youth groups continuously. The board stated that it's important to allocate reasonable costs for translation and its important to not only take certain groups into account, instead we should consider all members and potential members that will be in need of english translations. More detailed information about this implementation plan can be found on the member sites as support for the board meeting in february.

/The Board

The Pinboard

Forgot to order material for the 8 of March? We have some material for distribution at the offices in Gothenburg, Stockholm och Malmö.

Ruta: The 6th of March is the last day to apply for the National Youth Meeting in Stockholm. Application and info can be found at aktivism.amnesty.se/ungdomsträff

Mats Engman has worked with activism since 1997, but now it's time for him to leave us at Amnesty, and continue his career with the Association of som Bridge. Don't hesitate to send him a message at mats.engman@amnesty.se

Don't forget to book an introduction training this spring!
You can arrange training locally, for your group or in your district.

Fartun Andersson Ramnemo
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